



MNO November 2005 Resident Responses (Arlington):

Resident # 1:

We need repaving on Van Buren Street from Arlington Avenue to Magnolia Avenue. Also, repaving is needed at the Park on Sierra Street. It looks bad and people from other cities come to Riverside and complain about the horrible road conditions.

The Public Works Department is working on two street improvement projects on Van Buren Boulevard. One project is between Andrew and Garfield, and is scheduled to start mid 2006. The other project is between Jackson and the Santa Ana River, and is scheduled to start at the end of 2006. Both projects will include repaving Van Buren within the project limits. The repaving of the stretch between Garfield and Jackson will follow the completion of the above projects.

The repaving of Sierra Avenue between Streeter and Palm has been completed.

If you have further questions you may contact Philip Hannawi in the Engineering Division of Public Works at 826-5341.

Can we get more street lights on Jackson?

Jackson Street is one of the lengthier streets within the City of Riverside. That notwithstanding, the lighting on this street meets the current criteria established by the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES). Riverside has adopted the recommended practices established by IES since 1982.

Should there be any further questions on this matter, please contact Roberta Womack, Street Engineering Technician with Riverside Public Utilities at (951) 826-5452.

Should there be notification to the surrounding community when construction companies are igniting dynamite at construction sites? I would like to see a notice in the paper or receive a flyer providing information on the date, time, and location.

Typically, blasts go unnoticed without anyone knowing that it even occurred. Should someone see any debris in the air or a great deal of noise or rumbling they should call the Fire Department non-emergency line (951) 826-5321 and report it immediately. The Fire Department would then, during the next working day, go to the site and check on the seismic readings that were recorded. If the blasting company is not in compliance, their

permit would be pulled and they would be held liable for any and all damages that happened.

In general, blasting permits are issued by the local authorities, in the City of Riverside, it's the Fire Department who coordinates the permit. The blasting companies, and their procedures, are regulated by the State of California to ensure consistency throughout the state. In many cases a single blasting permit may have dozens of blasts performed over a five or six month period. The blasting companies will typically go to the nearest homes and ask the home owners if they can inspect the structures prior to the blast(s) for liability reasons to check out for existing cracks, etc.

The neighborhood still needs a community center... is this ever going to happen?

Under Parks, Recreation and Community Services policies, Community Centers are typically provided within the community park that serves a given neighborhood. Community parks are intended to serve all homes within a two-mile service radius. Upon closer review, the City identified three park/community centers within a two mile radius of 4234 Harrison Street. These community centers are located at Bryant and La Sierra park and Hunt park, which is less than one mile from this residence. Community Center addresses and hours can be found on Riverside's website, www.riversideca.gov.

Resident #2:

Can the City build bus shelters over the bus stop to protect users from rain, sun, heat, etc.? If so, we need those shelters in the Arlington area.

The City does not build bus shelters with the exception of some streetscape projects. However, the Riverside Transit Authority was contacted and on December 7, 2005, seven days after November's Mayor's Night Out was held, the City received notification that a bus shelter was installed at the Magnolia/Van Buren bus stop. If you have further questions you may contact Philip Hannawi in the Engineering Division of Public Works at 826-5341.

Resident # 3:

On Farnham Street, between Andrew and McKenzie, there is a pile of asphalt and trash. What can the City do about this?

The homeowner has removed the asphalt from the public right of way as requested by the Street Division staff. Also, Trash Mitigation removed some tires and debris in the adjacent vacant lot. If you have further questions or similar concerns you may contact Dan Batson at 351-6127.

When is the street work on Van Buren and Andrew going to start?

The street work on Van Buren and Andrew is part of the Van Buren Blvd. Widening project that is scheduled to start in May 2006. If you have further questions you may contact Philip Hannawi in the Engineering Division of Public Works at 826-5341.

Resident #4:

When will repaving on Montecello and Patrero take place?

The City Street Service Division is currently maintaining Montecello westerly of the channel. Easterly of the channel, Montecello will be paved after the water main replacement project is completed. The water main replacement project construction may start in Summer 2006 based on funding availability.

Patrero is added to the list of streets to be evaluated for Fiscal Year 2006/2007.

If you have further questions you may contact Philip Hannawi in the Engineering Division of Public Works at 826-5341.

Resident #5:

The visibility at the corner of Hendry and Jackson is seriously impeded by autos parked on the south side of Jackson and a huge palm tree on the north side of Jackson. What can be done about this?

To improve visibility at the intersection of Jackson and Hendry, faded red curb located on the west side of Jackson, north and south of Hendry, will be repainted. Overgrown ivy located on the southwest corner will be trimmed to aid visibility. Regarding the palm tree on the north side of Jackson, a field inspection found no apparent sight obstruction, as there were windows of visibility between the palm trees. If you have further questions you may contact Patricia Castillo in the Traffic Engineering Division of Public Works at 826-5366.

Resident # 6:

What are the procedures and/or what is the process for how the City exercises eminent domain?

The City follows state law that governs the manner in which City's are to acquire property by eminent domain. It is the general purpose and intent of these laws to strike a balance between a property owner's right to receive fair market value and the City's duty to protect the tax payer dollars with which these properties are acquired. As a general rule acquiring property by eminent domain involves discussions and negotiations over fair market value. These discussions begin with a notice to property owners of the City's intention to appraise property. Thereafter, the property owners are given the option to accompany the City's appraiser on a site inspection and to provide the appraiser with beneficial information to influence the valuation. The City is then required to share the substance of the appraisal with the property owner and to negotiate a purchase of the property. During these negotiations, property owners that dispute the appraisal are encouraged to submit their own appraisal or valuation information. In those few situations in which the City and property owner cannot agree to a value, state law provides a court process by which fair market value may be established. A vast majority of these contested cases are resolved without trial. In the last five years, the City of

Riverside, including the Redevelopment Agency have effectively resolved acquisitions without needing a court determination of fair market value.